Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 OES-04 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00

USIE-00 AEC-07 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00

DODE-00 EB-06 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00

NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 RSC-01 SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04

TRSE-00 FRB-01 FEA-01 CEQ-01 COA-01 EPA-04 NSF-02

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UNCLAS NAIROBI 9288

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EGEN, ECOSOC
SUBJECT: 29TH UNGA -- SECOND COMMITTEE - ITEM 46 -ENVIRONMENT

REF: STATE 243307, 242775,241579

- 1. EMBOFF ON NOV. 6 DISCUSSED TEXT UPPER VOLTAN DRAFT RESOLUTION WITH MICHEL BAUMER, DIRECTOR UNEP'S PROGRAM DIVISION II WHICH HAS RESPONSIBILITY FOR ARID LANDS.

 BAUMER'S REACTION WAS THAT PROPOSED 1977 CONFERENCE UNDER ECOSOC AUSPICES WOULD BE DUPLICATIVE AND UNNECESSARY BECAUSE UNEP'S ARID LAND PROGRAM NOW WELL UNDERWAY AND WILL HAVE ACCOMPLISHED MOST OF OBJECTIVES OF UPPER VOLTAN DRAFT RESOLUTION WELL BEFORE 1977.
- 2. AS EXAMPLES, BAUMER POINTED OUT THAT FAO AND UNEP PLAN TO COMPLETE BY 1977 MAP OF LATIN AMERICAN AREAS LIKELY TO UNCLASSIFIED

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BE AFFECTED BY DESERTIFICATION AND ALSO TO FINISH

PREPARATION FOR SIMILAR MAP OF AFRICA AT SAME TIME. UNEP AND UNESCO EXPECT BY 1975 TO PUBLISH REPORT ON STATE OF KNOWLEDGE ON TROPICAL, ARID AND SEMI-ARID ZONES FROM VIEWPOINT OF INTERNATIONAL PLANNING AND RESEARCH.

- 3. UNEP, WITH COOPERATION OTHER UN AGENCIES, ALSO PREPARING COORDINATED ACTION PLAN FOR ARID ZONES ON REGIONAL BASIS THROUGH SERIES OF MEETINGS. HAS ALREADY SPONSORED EXPERT'S MEETING ON ECOLOGICAL MANAGEMENT OF ARID AND SEMI-ARID RANGE LANDS IN AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST. THE JUST-RELEASED REPORT OF THIS MEETING WILL BE CONSIDERED BY REGIONAL POLICY MAKERS AT SECOND EMASRL MEETING TO BE HELD IN ROME IN FEB. 1975. ALSO PLANNED ARE A SYMPOSIUM ON ECOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT OF ARID ZONES IN TEHRAN IN LATE FEB. 1975 AND A FOURTH MEETING ON TRAINING AND VEGETATION DYNAMICS TO BE HELD IN TUNISIA IN APRIL OR MAY 1975.
- 4. ACTION PROGRAM STRATEGY FOR LATIN AMERICA TO BE DEVELOPED IN SIMILAR SERIES OF MEETINGS, STARTING WITH SECOND LATIN AMERICAN CONFERENCE ON ARID ZONES TO BE HELD IN MENDOZA, ARGENTINA NOV. 11-14, 1974. A THIRD SERIES OF MEETINGS PLANNED FOR ASIA/AUSTRALIA, WITH FIRST PROBABLY TO BE HELD IN PAKISTAN IN 1975.
- 5. NOT ONLY DOES BAUMER FEEL THAT PROPOSED 1977 MEETING WILL BE UNNECESSARY, BUT HE ALSO BELIEVES STRONGLY THAT UNEP RATHER THAN ECOSOC SHOULD BE COORDINATING AGENCY WITHIN UN ON ARID ZONES/DESERTIFICATION BECAUSE PROBLEMS ARE PRIMARILY ECOLOGICAL. AT SAME TIME, UNEP, THROUGH ITS VARIOUS PROGRAM DIVISIONS, CAN ALSO COVER ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL ASPECTS OF PROBLEM.
- 6. EMBASSY HOPES ABOVE UNEP EVALUATION WILL BE HELPFUL IN DISSUADING UPPER VOLTANS.

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